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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Foreign Agricultural Service • Washington, D.C.

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MAY 26 '77

foreign agriculture circular

dried pulses

FDP 1-77
April 1977

WORLD PULSE PRODUCTION: LENTIL OUTPUT UP, BEANS AND PEAS DOWN

Output of dry edible beans and peas in major producing countries during 1976 was moderately lower than in 1975. Garbanzo harvests were down substantially from the year-earlier level, except in India. Lentil production, on the other hand, was sharply higher than in 1975.

Dry Edible Beans

Smaller crops in Brazil, Mexico, Yugoslavia, and Colombia accounted for virtually all of the 8 percent decrease in dry bean production in reporting countries during 1976.

The 19 percent decline in Brazilian output was a result of excessive rains in the south that caused disease problems and drought in the northeast. Prospects are for an increase in production during 1977 as farmers react to good producer proces and a substantial rise in the Government minimum price. While Brazil is normally self-sufficeient in dry edible beans, substantial imports of both black and white beans were required in 1976. Major suppliers were Argentina, Mexico, and Chile.

Mexico's crop of 1,080,000 tons[1] was down 50,000 tons from 1975's, but 60,000 tons above the 1970-75 average. With a substantial carryover from the 1975 crop, Mexico is expected to be a net exporter of about 50,000 tons in 1977.

Canada harvested a slightly larger crop of 92,000 tons, 83,900 of which were Navy beans produced in Ontario.

The U.S. crop was down 1 percent from the 1975 level and 15 percent below the record crop of 919,000 tons in 1974. Growers harvested 1 percent more than in 1975. The average yield of 1.30 tons per hectare in 1976 was off 13 kilograms from the 1975 level, resulting in the slightly reduced crop. Production of Navy Pea beans was up 6 percent from 1975, level. Of the other major classes, Pintos were down 11 percent, Red Kidneys were down 3 percent, Pinks were down 14 percent, while Great Northerns were up 25 percent from the year-earlier level.

Of the major producers, only Argentina grew a singificantly larger crop—56 percent above 1975's. Yields of 12 quintals per hectare (7.7 in 1975) accounted for most of the increase, as planted area was only up 1,400 hectares. However, area is expected to increase about 17 percent in 1977 which, with yields equal to 1976's, could produce a crop of close to 200,000 tons. With the rapid advance in dry bean production, seed quality has become a major problem. Argentine exports in January-November 1976 totaled 87,349 tons, compared with 60,000 tons in calendar 1975.

Japan's production of Kidney beans rebounded to 83,400 tons from the poor 1975 crop of only 67,200 tons. However, production of Azuki beans (not included in table) dropped further to only 60,400 tons (88,400 in 1975 and 129,400 in 1974). The poor Azuki crop prompted the Government of Japan to issue one of the largest pulse import quotas ever—$48,100,000 for the first half of Japanese marketing year (October 1976-March 1977).

Dry Edible Peas

Dry edible pea production during 1976 in the reporting countries was down 8 percent from the 1975 level. Smaller area in the United States, combined with poor yields in Europe because of the drought, accounted for the shortfall. U.S. production—centered in Idaho and Washington but excluding Austrian Winter and Wrinkled seed peas—at 98,000 tons was 20 percent below 1975's and 31 percent below 1974's. Alaska (green) pea output was 81,000 tons, down 21 percent from the 101,000 tons produced in 1975. Production of yellow and white peas totaled 17,000 tons, compared with 21,000 tons in 1975. U.S. dry edible pea production in 1976 was harvested from 50,590 hectares, 25,690 fewer than in 1975 and 35,610 fewer than in 1974. Yields averaged 1.93 tons per hectare, compared with 1.62 tons in 1975 and 1.7 tons in 1974.

Production in the United Kingdom was down about 10 percent, although area was up 1 percent.

[1]All tons are metric.

French outturns increased dramatically in 1975 as area tripled, but dropped by more than half in 1976 with somewhat less area and yields only half those of 1975. The French Government has launched an incentive program to stimulate production of protein peas and horsebeans for use in compound feeds. The guaranteed price for peas is 95 francs per quintal (about $11.35 per cwt). Only 800 hectares of peas were produced under this program in 1975, but production of peas for feed is expected to expand rapidly to possibly as much as 100,000 hectares.

Production in Morocco and New Zealand was up 13 and 37 percent, respectively.

Lentils

Lentil production during 1976 in the reporting countries was up 27 percent over the 1975 total as both Syria and Turkey harvested bumper crops.

Syria's domestic requirements are about 60,000 tons, leaving about 95,000 tons for export. In January, Syria signed an agreement with Egypt for the sale of 30,000 tons, bringing 1976/77 sales to 45,000 tons.

Turkey's exports are estimated at about 40,000 tons, which will leave a carryover of about 60,000 tons compared with 20,000 tons at the end of the 1975/76 marketing year.

U.S. production was down about 20 percent in 1976 from the 1975 level. U.S. exports for September/February at 25,718 tons are slightly behind the previous year's pace, when a record 42,489 tons were exported.

Spain's crop was 16,000 tons below 1975's and imports during 1976/77 are estimated at 10,000 tons.

Garbanzos (Chickpeas)

In 1976, California harvested its smallest garbanzo crop since 1964's crop of only 1,900 tons. Mexico's crop was sharply reduced by drought, limited seed supplies, and a temporary embargo on trade with Spain—a combination of factors that drove garbanzo prices in the U.S. to more than $1,100 per ton ($50 per cwt). A new commercial treaty between Mexico and Spain prompted Mexican producers to expand area planted in November/December 1976 for harvesting in March/May 1977, and production is expected to rebound to about 40,000 tons.

WORLD PULSE PRODUCTION
1975 and 1976
(In thousands of metric tons)

Continent and Country	Dry Edible Beans 1/		Dry Edible Peas		Lentils		Garbanzos	
	1975	1976 2/	1975	1976 2/	1975	1976 2/	1975	1976 2/
North America:								
Canada	90	92	49	45	--	--	--	--
Costa Rica	16	18	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dominican Republic	36	37	--	--	--	--	--	--
El Salvador	40	37	--	--	--	--	--	--
Guatemala	86	86	--	--	--	--	--	--
Honduras	51	55	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	1,130	1,080	--	--	8	8	69	17
Nicaragua	59	53	--	--	--	--	--	--
Panama	4	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
United States	785	779	124	98	60	48	5	2
Total	2,297	2,241	173	143	68	56	74	19
South America:								
Argentina	109	170	19	22	13	16	8	4
Brazil	2,270	1,842	--	--	--	--	--	--
Chile	71	78	11	9	16	14	3	5
Colombia	89	68	30	31	10	10	12	10
Peru	40	40	17	15	2	2	3	3
Venezuela	41	34	1	1	--	--	--	--
Total	2,620	2,232	78	78	41	42	26	22
Europe:								
Belgium-Luxembourg	4	2	9	4	--	--	--	--
France	25	18	73	32	18	8	--	--
Germany	2	1	4	2	--	--	--	--
Greece	44	45	--	--	7	6	17	13
Italy	105	107	5	6	3	3	18	17
Netherlands	14	10	22	15	--	--	--	--
Portugal	39	29	--	--	--	--	16	15
Romania	82	90 3/	29	30 3/	--	--	--	--
Spain	112	102	10	7	62	36	60	66
Sweden	1	1	7	8	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	86	78	--	--	--	--
Yugoslavia	166	135	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Europe	594	540	245	182	90	53	111	111
Asia:								
Iran	85	90	23	28	30	30	40	40
India	--	--	--	--	--	--	4,000	5,900
Japan	67	83	4	3	--	--	--	--
Jordan	--	--	--	--	15	20	--	--
Pakistan	--	--	60	70	26	30	542	554
Syria	--	--	--	--	66	160	27	35
Turkey	155	155	4	4	135	210	175	165
Total	307	328	91	105	272	450	4,784	6,694
Africa:								
Angola	70 3/	70 3/	--	--	--	--	--	--
Egypt	17	18	--	--	--	--	--	--
Morocco	--	--	99	112	34	41	61	51
Malagassy	60 3/	60 3/	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	50	53	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	197	201	99	112	34	41	61	51
Oceania:								
Australia	6	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
New Zealand	--	--	30	41	--	--	--	--
Total	6	7	30	41	--	--	--	--
Grand Total	6,021	5,549	716	661	505	642	5,056	6,897

1/ Includes generally all beans of the species "phaseolus vulgaris" (haricot or kidney-shaped beans) and "phaseolus lunatus" (lima beans).
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Estimated.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of research and related information.